

receiving a call request to connect a call from an originating subscriber terminal to a destination subscriber terminal, the call request including a destination identifier associated with the destination subscriber terminal;

a1 in response to the call request, providing at least one advertisement to a subscriber associated with the originating subscriber terminal;

determining a free calling balance for the subscriber based on the destination identifier and based on providing the at least one advertisement to the subscriber;

connecting the call from the originating subscriber terminal to the destination subscriber terminal; and

monitoring the free calling balance as the call progresses.

16. (Amended) A method for advertising supported communications in a telecommunications network, the method comprising:

receiving a call request to connect a call from an originating subscriber terminal to a destination subscriber terminal, the call request including a destination identifier associated with the destination subscriber terminal and further including a service code;

a2 in response to the call request, determining whether a subscriber associated with the originating subscriber terminal is designated to receive advertising supported services; if so,

providing at least one advertisement to the subscriber;

determining a free calling balance for the subscriber based on the destination identifier and based on providing the at least one advertisement to the subscriber;

connecting the call from the originating subscriber terminal to the destination subscriber terminal;

decrementing the free calling balance as the call progresses;

disconnecting the call from the originating subscriber terminal to the destination subscriber terminal;

determining whether any unused free calling balance is left; and, if so, discarding the any unused free calling balance.

25. (Amended) A system for advertising-supported communications, the system comprising:

23 a first network entity for receiving a call request to connect a call from an originating subscriber terminal to a destination subscriber terminal, the call request including a destination identifier associated with the destination subscriber terminal;

a second network entity for providing at least one advertisement to a subscriber associated with the originating subscriber terminal, in response to the call request; and

a third network entity for determining a calling balance for the subscriber based on the destination identifier and based on providing the at least one advertisement to the subscriber and monitoring the calling balance when the call from the originating subscriber terminal is connected to the destination subscriber terminal.

Remarks

1. Summary of Action

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, because the claim included a term that lacked antecedent basis. Additionally, the Examiner rejected claims 1-7, 13, 14 and 25-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,850,007 (Marino), the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 6-11, 15 and 25-29 as under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,987,424 (Nakamura), and the Examiner rejected claims 12 and 16-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over a combination of Marion and Nakamura.